

# STATE OF COLORADO

## OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

130 State Capitol  
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792  
Phone: (303) 866-2087  
[www.colorado.gov/ltgovernor/](http://www.colorado.gov/ltgovernor/)



Jane E. Norton  
Lieutenant Governor

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**CONTACT: Amber O'Connor**  
303-866-3125

## **NORTON ANNOUNCES OVER \$2.4 MILLION IN GRANTS**

*Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton announces grants to AmeriCorps programs*

**(DENVER)** – Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton today announced \$2,429,778 in grant money awarded by The Corporation for National and Community Service to the Governor's Commission on Community Service, overseen by Norton's office.

"These grants bring tremendous resources to Colorado by providing AmeriCorps members who are dedicated to improving neighborhoods and the organizations in which they serve," said Norton. "I am pleased to announce this tremendous award that will further our goal of strengthening communities and helping build leaders for the good of America's future."

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages thousands of Americans on a full or part-time basis to help communities address their toughest challenges while earning support for post-secondary education. To date, more than \$25 million in federal funds has passed through the Commission to local organizations.

The Commission will disperse the grant money to 14 subgrantees who will engage 590 AmeriCorps members in service activities. "We are thrilled to see these federal dollars supporting local organizations," said Norton, "I have seen the giving spirit of AmeriCorps members first hand and know that these grants support work that make an incredible difference in the lives of those served."

The 2004-05 grants are being awarded to the following organizations:

### **Adams County School District #14 Community Action on Reading and Education Network (CARENET).**

CARENET will engage a team of 20 AmeriCorps members in 13 schools to provide comprehensive literacy tutoring for Commerce City students and families, ages preschool through adult. In addition, the program will provide quality out-of-school time activities for more than 600 at-risk children and youth.

### **Arc of Denver Inc. Speaking for Ourselves**

The Arc of Denver's Speaking for Ourselves AmeriCorps program will place 35 members in People First chapters around the state, where they will provide resources and a support system that helps to empower people with developmental disabilities.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado, Inc.  
BIG Literacy Corps**

The BIG Literacy Corps program, a school-based mentoring model, will engage members as mentors, and coordinators of high school mentors. Members will recruit, train, and place high school students as mentors for elementary school students in need of one-on-one attention.

**Catholic Charities of Denver  
Operation Jump Start**

The Operation Jump Start AmeriCorps program will engage 20 members in the Catholic Charities child care division. Members will increase classroom adult/child ratios and quality by focusing on four primary areas; education, health, advocacy, and volunteer generation.

**City and County of Denver  
Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition**

The City/County of Denver, lead agency in the Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition program, will match 20 AmeriCorps members with youth who are transitioning out of foster care and young adult care systems. Members will be placed in multiple agencies throughout the state as mentors to advise youth and provide resources that help them make successful transitions.

**Colorado Department of Education  
Mentors on the Move**

The Colorado Mentors on the Move project serves highly mobile and homeless youth in numerous community-based organizations and school districts. AmeriCorps members will serve as tutors, mentors and will coordinate educational activities for this underserved population.

**Colorado Parent and Child Foundation  
Colorado HIPPYCorps**

Colorado HIPPYCorps (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youth) members will provide early childhood education, literacy and parenting support to families in five rural and urban counties across Colorado (Alamosa, Costilla, Conejos, Denver and Jefferson).

**Colorado Youth Corps Association  
CYCA AmeriCorps Education Awards Program**

The Colorado Youth Corps Association, an association of youth corps programs across the state, will engage approximately 200 members in environmental projects, such as building and repairing trails, fire mitigation projects, and restoration and enhancement of open space areas in Colorado.

**Employment Services of Weld County**

## **Weld County Youth Conservation Corps**

The Weld County Youth Conservation Corps AmeriCorps program will engage 12 members in service tasks that enhance the community, including beautification, environmental, and community service projects for the parks department, local nonprofit organizations, and schools.

## **Mesa State College MSC AmeriCorps**

The Mesa State College (MSC) AmeriCorps Project will engage 35 AmeriCorps members in an interagency effort to increase resources for youth in Grand Junction/Mesa County. This multi-agency collaboration, led by the College on behalf of a network of youth serving agencies, provides intervention and support to at-risk and delinquent youth.

## **Pikes Peak Nonprofit Partnership Colorado Promise Fellows Program**

The Colorado AmeriCorps Promise Fellows Program will place 15 members in youth serving nonprofit agencies throughout the state. Members will focus on the Five Promises to America's youth: 1) caring adults, 2) safe places, 3) healthy starts, 4) marketable skills, and 5) the opportunity to give back to the community through service.

## **Project YES Lafayette Service Learning Partnership**

Project Yes (Youth Envisioning Social change) is launching a new AmeriCorps program, Lafayette Service Learning Partnership, which will engage five members in the coordination and implementation of service learning projects for youth based in Lafayette, CO.

## **Rocky Mountain Youth Corps Healthy Lifestyles Mentoring Program**

The Rocky Mountain Youth Corps program will engage 30 members as mentors to under-achieving middle school students, on environmental crews, and in volunteer recruitment and management to engage other citizens in service in the Routt County area.

## **Year One, Inc. Mile High Youth Corps**

The Mile High Youth Corps will engage 20 AmeriCorps members in a full schedule of service in environmental and community strengthening areas. Members will address three critical areas of need in communities throughout the Denver metropolitan area: environmental restoration and protection, affordable housing, and neighborhood revitalization.

*Jane Norton was sworn in as Colorado's 46<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003. Her responsibilities include serving as the chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; acting as point person for the Owens Administration on health insurance reform; strengthening families by promoting adoption, early childhood care and education efforts/initiatives, mentoring and volunteerism; and serving as Colorado's delegate to the Aerospace States Association.*

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